

10/526021

BT01 Rec'd PCT/PTC 25 FEB 2005

ABSTRACT

A device used to control the quality of an operation involving laser beam welding, hardfacing, or machining of a part. The device includes at least one gas blow nozzle including an exhaust duct used to release a stream of the gas and at least one photo-sensitive sensor disposed behind the exhaust duct. A method controls an operation involving the laser welding, hardfacing, or machining of a part.